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Statement Is Only Comment He Will Make In CIA Controversy: Houghton

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Arthur A. Houghton Jr., president of Stephen Glass, told The Leader today that he will not answer any allegations with regard to the Foundation for Youth and Student Affairs, which has been mentioned in connection with reported Central Intelligence Agency's payments to the National Student Association.

Mr. Houghton, who heads the Foundation, gave this newspaper a five-paragraph general statement when telephoned today at his office in New York City. He said that the statement represents the only comment he intends to make on this matter.

CIA funds for four student groups were channelled through

private foundations, according to an article in the Washington Star, which listed the Foundation for Youth and Student Affairs as the principal donor to college student organizations.

A controversy with regard to CIA undercover payments to student organizations arose this week when it was revealed that payments had been made since the early 1950s to subsidize some overseas activities of the National Student Association. State Department officials, according to The New York Times, "privately defended the subsidy as necessary to offset the influence in international student circles of heavily financed and con-

trolled Communist student groups."

Mr. Houghton's statement follows:

"The Foundation for Youth and Student Affairs, of which I am president, was founded by me some years ago to assist in philanthropic activities in which I am interested.

"As is publicly known, I have long been a principal figure in, or very closely associated with, innumerable organizations, institutions, and foundations in the area of business, art, education, libraries, music, health, youth, culture, and civic affairs. To these activities, I have contributed

a great deal of time and support.

"The record of the Foundation for Youth and Student Affairs is one of which I am proud. Its work has assisted countless young men and women in their development as citizens. It has given help to student groups in their self-determined activities. It has responded to numerous worthwhile appeals that have come to it, and it has never placed conditions on the grants that it has made.

"At the moment some of the actions of the Foundation for Youth and Student Affairs are being questioned. I do not intend to answer these allegations. I have never sought public recognition in my philanthropic activities, nor disclosed my contributions to any organization. I do not intend to do so now. If at any time I have cooperated with our government as a citizen on matters affecting the national interest, that is my own affair.

"I intend that the work of the Foundation for Youth and Student Affairs shall go forward. Private support to students and other young persons in their many activities will be needed in the years ahead as never before. I shall continue to do what I can personally, through this foundation, and through every other institution with which I am associated."